



Marc Elrich, County Executive
Andrew Kleine, Chief Administrator Officer

Catherine Matthews, Director
Kraig Walsleben, UCAB Chair

May 10, 2019

Reminder!

**Upcounty Citizen Advisory Board to Host
Capital Improvements Program Budget Forum**

**Tuesday, May 14 7:00pm
BlackRock Center for the Arts
12901 Town Commons Drive, Germantown**

Residents and groups are invited to provide input into the County's next six-year capital construction budget by attending one of the public forums being held by local citizen advisory boards beginning several weeks ago. The forums will help define construction and planning priorities for the various regions in the County as officials develop the Fiscal Years 2021 to 2026 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) budget.

The CIP includes costs for new, or renovated, major projects such as roads; public schools and Montgomery College facilities; water and sewer lines; parks, libraries, health and recreation facilities; and other public buildings and projects.

If you miss Tuesday's forum, feel free to attend one of the remaining ones:

- **Mid-County – Monday, May 20, 7 p.m.** – Mid-County Community Recreation Center, 2004 Queensguard Road, Silver Spring, 240-777-8101 or 240-777-6820.
- **Eastern County – Thursday, May 23, 7 p.m.** – Eastern Montgomery Regional Center, 3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring, 240-777-8414.

Suggestions and comments from participants will be considered by the regional citizen advisory boards for inclusion in the funding priority lists they submit to the County Executive. The lists will also be shared with County departments and agencies for consideration as they formulate the CIP for their departments.

The following links provide more information:

- Open Budget (Montgomery County's interactive open data budget websites covering departments, agencies, projects and more) <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/omb/openbudget.html>
- Office of Management and Budget Publications <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/omb/publications.html>



***Business Connect* Launches at Montgomery County's Upcounty Regional Services Center**

Montgomery County business owners and entrepreneurs in the Upcounty will be getting additional support through the new *Business Connect* program launched by County Executive Marc Elrich at the Upcounty Regional Services Center on May 8 during [Small Business Week](#). *Business Connect* is a business assistance hub where small business owners can get information, support and training to start or grow their companies. The Germantown location was selected to make it more convenient for thousands of Upcounty businesses to connect with County services.

"Montgomery County's new *Business Connect* program is a terrific complement to the state-level efforts to transform Maryland's business climate," said Maryland Commerce Deputy Secretary Ben Wu. "This innovative program shows that Montgomery County is working hard to make sure government provides great customer service and ensures that Maryland is a welcoming, supportive place to launch and grow a business."

Judy Stephenson, who is the small business navigator and a member of the county's Business Solutions Group, which also includes business liaison officers, is working on site at the Upcounty Regional Services Center. Results from the Upcounty pilot will be used to design a Countywide *Business Connect* program that will be available at all of the regional services centers over the next year.

Business Connect will offer workshops on County processes such as procurement and permitting and will work with local chambers of commerce to provide informative "lunch and learn" sessions from subject matter experts. For information and resources related to starting and growing a business in Montgomery County, visit the [Montgomery County Business Portal](#). When visiting the Montgomery County Business Portal, click on Training Workshops (at the top right of the website) to register for these upcoming classes at the Upcounty Regional Services Center:

- [Wednesday, May 29 - Legal Risk Management for Business Owners, 10 a.m. - noon \(Room B\)](#)
- [Thursday, May 30 - Montgomery County Procurement Programs and State of Maryland Certifications, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. \(Room A\)](#)
- [Tuesday, June 4 - How to Launch Your Food Venture, 10 a.m. – noon \(Room B\)](#)
- [Tuesday, June 4 - One-on-One Business Counseling, 1 - 4 p.m. \(Room 1\)](#)

Assistance is also available in-person by appointment. To book an appointment with the County's Business Solutions Group, email bizportal@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Follow Montgomery County on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



To register, call 800-745-7433

Do you have your ticket yet?



BlackRock Center for the Arts' 16th Annual Spring Gala

Full STEAM Ahead!

Friday, May 17

12901 Town Commons Drive

Reception 6:00pm, followed by Dinner

For information, visit <https://www.blackrockcenter.org/gala19/> or call 301-528-2260.



Laytonsville Community Parade

Saturday, May 18 11:30am

Laytonsville Road (MD Route 108)

Questions? Contact Charlie Kearse at 301-926-2011 or Town Hall at 301-869-0042.

Gaithersburg Book Festival
Saturday, May 18 10:00am – 6:00pm
Gaithersburg City Hall
31 South Summit Avenue, Gaithersburg

Questions? Contact Carolyn Crosby, Senior Events Supervisor for the City
Carolyn.crosby@gaitherbsurgmd.gov or 240-805-1508

Free admission & parking!

4Business: Benchmarking to Be the Best for Business

A Listening Session for Businesses in the County

Monday, June 10 7:00pm – 8:30pm
Upcounty Regional Services Center
12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown

County Executive Marc Elrich and Council Vice President Sidney Katz are embarking on a multi-pronged joint initiative: **4Business – Benchmarking to Be the Best for Business**. Their scheduled listening sessions are an opportunity for business owners to share their concerns and experiences about starting and growing a business in Montgomery County.

Other sessions are scheduled as follows:

- Monday, May 13, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Mid-County Service Area, Charles W. Gilchrist Immigrant Resource Center, 11002 Veirs Mill Road, Wheaton
- Wednesday, May 22, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Silver Spring Civic Building, One Veterans Place, Silver Spring.

If you can't attend a listening session, email your thoughts about how to improve the County's business climate to 4business@montgomerycountymd.gov.

For more information, visit the 4Business website at
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DPS/business/4Business.html>.

For more information about the initiative and the other listening sessions, read the news release at
https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=22993.

Public input is key!

For more News from the Office of the County Executive, visit: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/news>

For other news and meeting agendas, visit:

County Council <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council>

Planning Board http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/departments/news_releases

Also check out the latest from:

Department of Public Libraries <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library>

Department of Recreation <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec>

Department of Transportation <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot/index.html>

Department of Environmental Protection <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dep>

Department of Permitting Services <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dps>

Montgomery County Volunteer Center <http://www.montgomeryserves.org>

Office of Community Partnerships <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/partnerships>

Commission for Women <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw>

Parks Department <http://www.montgomeryparks.org/>

Planning Department <http://montgomeryplanning.org/>

Department of Health and Human Services www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs